



derstands only Japanese. When a litter of puppies arrived, Devi Dja found good homes for each one of the pups through a newspaper advertisement. Many of Devi Djas costumes are designed by herself.

Devi Dja has exquisite hands; her finger nails are from an inch and a half to two inches in length, usually painted a beautiful coral color, with strikes of gold. In the Balines dance, "Kebyar", her hands completely dominate every movement, like ivory butterflies in sustained flight. Fluidity of movement is created by Devi Dja with a few basic movements of the head, hands, or shoulders. Of the many dances that she performs my favorites are The "Blue Lotus", which depicts the fight against evil, "Shiva" (Javanese), a dynamic interpretation of the God Siva, who creates the universe and in his anger against the frailty of mankind destroys him, "Tragedy of Garuda", depicting the event where the King of the eagles (Garuda) is called upon to help battle the King of the demons, and to my mind the pearl of them all "Batarra" (Javanese) — The journey of the soul. This is the famous court dance, so exclusive that it has been preserved through the ages as the prerogative right of Javanese Princes. Hand movements symbolize various periods of the soul's sojourn until, with great rejoicing, the soul attains its goal in Nirvana. Devi Dja's repertoire includes Javanese court and temple culture, and Indonesian folk dances.

Costumes are an important part of the performance, and great care is exercised in creating beautiful and authentic costumes. Silk, Satin, Velvet, and Batik material emblazones with emeralds, red, purple, and gold and fashioned into long tight skirts, tunics, scarfs, and sarongs, help create an atmosphere of beauty. Carved head-dresses are set in silver and gold, and studded with gems.

Hollywood has beckoned to Devi Dja, and she has appeared in some films. In the "Picture of Dorian Grey" Devi Dja performed the "Temptation of Buddha", in which Buddha sits in meditation as the royal courtesian beseeches him to return to his previous life as Prince,

but Buddha spurns all earthly temptations. During the filming of these court scenes, there were two hours of camera shots. When the film was released, the court scene and dance was cut to a minute. The suave voice of Davi Dja is clearly heard in a chant.

She is assisted by Devi Wani, Devi Mimah, and Devi Tinah. "Devi", signifies a dancer of the temple. Like Devi Dja, all have beautiful, long hair; Wani's and Mimah's hair reaches to their knees. Devi Wani is second only to Devi Dja, in her outstanding portrayal. She is beautiful and exotic. Wani and Mimah are noted for their combined interpretations of many Javanese — Balinese folk dances. They are unequalled in their dances of Sumatra and Borneo. Devi Tinah is noted for her Hindu dances.

The people of Java, Bali and the neighboring lands seem to have derived their ritualistic dances from India, at some time in the past when Buddhism was the religion, for there are striking resemblances in the poses and in the elaborate use of the hands to the Hindu Choreography, the origin of which is lost in antiquity. Dancing is mentioned in the vedas, and that it was a highly perfected art then, can be deduced from the fact that Panini mentioned the Nata Sutra, which was probably a handbook of gesture.

Her programs contain various dances, some of a purely folk nature, some animistic, some of a religious significance. Usually Toto and Emus, two native musicians play drums, xylophones, songs, and a type of violin in accompaniment.

Thus it is, that I know Devi Dja and her company, in all the frankness and sincerity of a true friendship. Knowing Devi Dja, Wani and Mimah has brought me closer to an understanding and thorough knowledge of the people of the East Indies. It has been like a journey to the Orient, learnin something new and strange from these fascinating and charming natives of Indonesia. To Devi Dja and her Bali-Java dancers, I say, "DENGAN HORMAT". — BERNARDO

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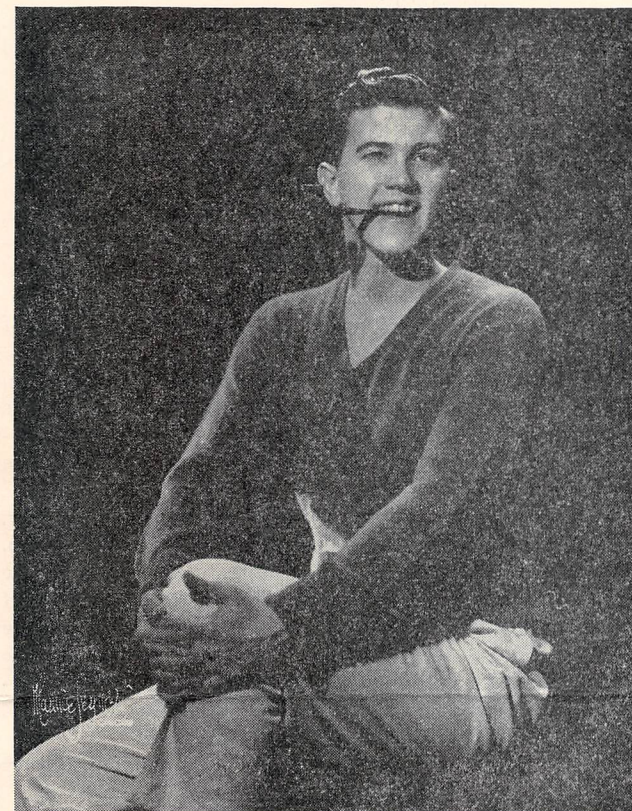
Katherine Cornell, the leading lady of our American Theatre who recently played here to packed houses in "Antigone" and "Candida" often tells the story of what she calls her Lucky Day.

It was back in the days when she was an unknown actress playing a bit part in a Broadway opus called "Nice People" and at the time her biggest aspiration was to play the role of Sydney in Bill of Divorcement that Allan Pollock an English actor was bringing to America, however being an unknown she was quite sure her chances for the part were almost nihil.

Then one morning while reading the mail over her coffee, she came across a postal card from the Packard Theatrical Agency saying that they had received a cable from Mr. Pollock wanting to know if Miss Cornell would be free in September for "Bill of Divorcement", of course she dashed over to the agency and told them that she would be free in September, and what part would she do? A few hours later Mr. Pollock cabled back the answer to Miss Cornell's question he wanted her for the roll of Sydney. This was a dream come true, a streak of luck that can only happen in the theatre, but how did Allan Pollock ever hear of Katherine Cornell? Well, it seems as if the story goes like this:

In London Mr. Pollock took room and board with two very lovely English ladies of whom he was very, very fond, and before bringing "Bill of Divorcement" to America he took his two friends to see the play. After the performance plans for America were discussed and

the question of who would play the roll of Sydney was brought up. At this point the two charming ladies remembered a young American actress who two years before had played the roll of "Jo" in Little Women, she and only she they insisted could play Sydney, not knowing her name Mr. Pollock cabled the agency to locate the young actress, and as Miss Cornell says, "I owe a great deal to those two ladies".



MARVIN WEST

Pictured, is Marvin West, youthful tenor, whose latest musical success was that of understudy to the singing star of Olsen and Johnson madhouse, "Laffing Room Only". At present, Marvin is doing some radio work in Chicago and in Detroit, his home-town, where at the age of 16, he began his musical career singing at Greenfield Village church at the request of Henry Ford, the founder of the edifice.

Persons to sponsor the talented and handsome young singer during the past five years: Nicholas Keller, state representative of Illinois; Robert Ricketts; and Jack Benny. Mr. West's first screen tests were not successful as his young face was so incompatible with his mature singing voice. Since then he has been touring the country in USO camp shows, and singing in the better known night-clubs on the west coast.

Last year, before joining Olsen and Johnson, he worked the entire gala season in Florida, then came to New York to be snatched up by Ben Yost of the NBC.

Among his many talents are modeling, drawing, and song-writing. His versatility boasts on three entirely different types of singing; his repertoire consists of more than 200 songs of Classical, Semi-Classical and Popular.

Of late, Mr. West has been making a few theatre appearances, along with club-dates, while holding out for the July and Fall shows of the Rio Cabana and the Palmer House.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor" which had such a successful run at the Erlanger Theatre has in its supporting cast a very clever and outstanding young actress, Miss Wauna Paul, who plays the role of Mistress Quickly.

Miss Paul will be remembered for her outstanding performance in the Ethel Barrymore hit "Embezzled Heaven", and "Uncle Harry" with Eva La Gallion. All the sparkle and wit that goes with Mistress Quickly's charter can be found in Miss Paul. She is kept quite busy between stage and radio bookings, and in the summer spends her time living in her boat on Long Island.

While in Philadelphia last week I took in one of the craziest shows on tour for two year now, "Laffing Room Only". Mati and Hari, with that show, are a flashing comedy pair whose antics were so brilliantly featured with Trudi Schoop and her ballet, stopped the show. From a background unsurpassed for variety of dance forms, they have evolved an art and irresistible blend of humor and satire which convulses the audience and is conspicuously their own. This unique clonin has left a wake of laughter on four continents and will be seen much more by audiences familiar with genius in the field of the dance.

THE BALTIC STATES

Charges Soviets Killed Two Million Balts

Guelph, May 27 — (Special) — Declaring that the world — including the United Nations organization — was winking at the fate of millions of residents of the Baltic States, Rev. H. H. Chipchase announced to his congregation here, at York Road Baptist Church yesterday morning, that he and three others would go to Europe this summer in an effort to locate 2,000,000 persons from Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania who are believed to be in displaced persons camps in seven or eight countries.

Mr. Chipchase, who said that he was appointed Canadian representative for the Baltic Evangelical Mission at a meeting in Boston last week, announced that the delegation would be made up of Rev. Oswald Blumit, a Latvian evangelist and journalist, who escaped from the Baltic States just before Russia moved in; two men from the United States, and himself.

Two million in the three states were killed in one black night after the Germans fled and the Russians took over, Rev. Mr. Chipchase charged. Two million others escaped and wandered, homeless, over Europe. Only one-third of the original population of the three states, which was six million before the war, were left there, it is believed.

The Baltic mission would be reestablished as quickly as possible, although no evangelists are permitted by Russia to enter the states at present, he said. One Boston business man gave \$5,000 last week to aid in the work.

Plan Relief

The delegation from North America will seek to find some responsible person in each displaced persons camp where Baltic people are housed, so that relief can be sent to them with some hope of it reaching the people for whom it is destined. "Unless relief shipments are sent to the right person at the right camp they are liable to be grabbed by anyone", he asserted.

Rev. M. Chipchase stated that Rev. Mr. Blumit had been blacklisted by both the Germans and Russians, and escaped, just in time, in August, 1939. The reason? He had been supporting his orphanages by taking pictures of secret German highways being constructed in the Baltic, and selling them to the British Government. Some of Mr. Blumit's movies of German superhighways were shown in Boston last week. (Toronto Telegram).